

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for creating a user-interface independently of an application with which the user interface interacts, the application including a plurality of components and at least one component containing a property, each property being identified with an identifier, the method comprising:
 - inserting at least one element into the user-interface; and
 - associating at least one property path with one inserted element, the property path including a concatenation of a plurality of identifiers, the concatenation of identifiers defining a path through the components of the application to a property at the end of the concatenation.
2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
 - determining a list of property paths associated with the application; and
 - selecting the property path from the list to associate with the one inserted element of the user-interface from the list of property paths.
3. The method of claim 2 wherein the step of determining further comprises receiving a property path description file associated with the application, the property path description file including a plurality of identifiers associated with the application and a relationship between the plurality of identifiers.
4. The method of claim 2 wherein the step of determining further comprises
 - executing the application; and

3 interacting with the executing application to determine a plurality of identifiers
4 associated with the application and a relationship between the plurality of identifiers.

1 5. The method of claim 1 further comprising transmitting a request to register for a property
2 change message corresponding to the property path associated with the element of the user-
3 interface.

1 6. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of inserting comprises:
2 providing at least one predefined element; and
3 enabling selection from the at least one predefined element to insert the selected
4 predefined element into the user-interface.

1 7. The method of claim 6 wherein the predefined element comprises one of an image type
2 user-interface element, an iterator type user-interface element, a text type user-interface element,
3 a hidden type user-interface element, a value type user-interface element, a slider type user-
4 interface element, a treeview type user-interface element, a button type user-interface element, an
5 iframe type user-interface element, a tab type user-interface element, a flipflop type user-interface
6 element, a deck type user-interface element, a dropdown type user-interface element, a radio type
7 user-interface element, and a script type user-interface element.

1 8. A system for creating a user-interface independently of an application with which the user
2 interface interacts, the application including a plurality of components and at least one
3 component containing a property, each property being identified with an identifier, the system
4 comprising:

5 a property connector module inserting at least one element into the user-interface, and
6 associating at least one property path with one inserted element, the property path including a
7 concatenation of a plurality of identifiers, the concatenation of identifiers defining a path through
8 the components of the application to a property at the end of the concatenation.

1 9. The system of claim 8 wherein the property connector module is further configured to
2 determine a list of property paths associated with the application, and to select the property path
3 from the list to associate with the one inserted element of the user-interface from the list of
4 property paths.

1 10. The system of claim 8 wherein the property connector module is further configured to
2 receive a property path description file associated with the application, the property path
3 description file including a plurality of identifiers associated with the application and a
4 relationship between the plurality of identifiers.

1 11. The system of claim 8 wherein the property connector module is further configured to
2 execute the application, and to interact with the executing application to determine a plurality of
3 identifiers associated with the application and a relationship between the plurality of identifiers.

1 12. The system of claim 8 wherein the property connector module is further configured to
2 transmit a request to register for a property change message corresponding to the property path
3 associated with the element of the user-interface.

1 13. The system of claim 8 wherein the property connector module is further configured to
2 provide at least one predefined element, and to enable selection from the at least one predefined
3 element to insert the selected predefined element into the user-interface.

1 14. The system of claim 13 wherein the predefined element comprises one of an image type
2 user-interface element, an iterator type user-interface element, a text type user-interface element,
3 a hidden type user-interface element, a value type user-interface element, a slider type user-
4 interface element, a treeview type user-interface element, a button type user-interface element, an
5 iframe type user-interface element, a tab type user-interface element, a flipflop type user-interface
6 element, a deck type user-interface element, a dropdown type user-interface element, a radio type
7 user-interface element, and a script type user-interface element.

1 15. The system of claim 8 further comprising:
2 a client node including:
3 the user interface having one or more elements; and
4 a client portion of the property connector module.

1 16. The system of claim 8 further comprising:
2 a server node including:
3 the application; and
4 a server portion of the property connector module.